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American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Set to Deliver \$173 Million in Energy Programs for Maryland Families and Workers

Annapolis, MD: The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) announced today at the Clean Energy Summit the State's plan to leverage federal funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for energy programs that will best serve the needs of Marylanders and advance clean energy in our State. Under the ARRA, Maryland will receive \$173 million to invest within the next 18 months for programs that will have a direct and positive impact on residents and the development of green collar jobs.

"Maryland will invest the funding from the Obama Recovery and Reinvestment Plan strategically, so we can rebuild our economic infrastructure and create jobs," said Governor O'Malley. "These federal funds will help Maryland families through home weatherization and job training programs, while building the green-jobs economy of the future for Maryland's workforce."

Some of the programs and incentives which were highlighted today at the Clean Energy Summit included multi-family housing retrofits for low and moderate income families, which will provide energy retrofits to an estimated 2,500 housing units with energy savings projected upwards of 25% per unit, along with low interest loans for residential and commercial customers which will immediately benefit approximately 800 Maryland families and businesses, assuming \$10,000 per loan. Additional programs unveiled today included Energy Efficiency Incentives targeted towards Commercial, Industrial and Farm Sectors which will be used to assist with energy upgrades; as well as Green Job Training and Technical Assistance, which will build on the success of the existing Maryland Home Performance Program by partnering with the Maryland Clean Energy Center and the Governor's Workforce Investment Board to provide technical, business and entrepreneurial training and host job fairs to attract potential energy workers.

"Our State is a leader in clean energy and is uniquely positioned to maximize federal funding to help EmPOWER families' to lower their energy bills and be better equipped to handle this challenging time," remarked MEA Director Malcolm Woolf. "With the combination of Federal and State funding, along with our *shovel ready* energy programs, the O'Malley-Brown Administration is also able and ready to put more Marylanders to work through the creation of green collar jobs. This truly is an exciting time to be a part of our One Maryland."

For more information on the Clean Energy Programs proposed for Maryland, visit www.Energy.Maryland.Gov.

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